

# INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Railroad Traffic from Frankfurt/Oder to Brest Litovsk

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1. Between 27 July and 10 August 1953 railroad traffic to Brest Litovsk was particularly heavy. From 18 to 20 trains per day went to Brest. About ten of the trains were loaded with machinery, machine parts and manufactured goods. About three of the trains were empty. One train each carried the following: gasoline, printed matter, refrigeration cars and new sleeping cars for Russian use.
2. Between 27 July and 10 August from eight to ten trains per day arrived in Brest from Frankfurt/Oder from Brest. These trains consisted of the following: about forty percent were empty cars returning to Frankfurt; about thirty percent were loaded with iron ore for processing; and about twenty percent were loaded with foodstuffs such as grain, oats, wheat, butter and fats.
3. All traffic to Brest was normal. From 27 July to 10 August there were no indications of partisan activity.
4. The Soviet authorities have taken over Russian leave trains, which are now once again manned by Russian personnel. No German personnel travel on passenger trains going to Brest. There are no German personnel employed on leave trains, and on the Blue Express there are normally only five Germans: two waiters and three cooks for the dinner. All these speak Russian and are employed directly by Karlsruhe-Baden Mitropa offices in West Berlin. The cars for the Blue Express are as follows: five passenger cars from the Berlin Oberbaumhof and five from Hustermark. These are then assembled in Koepenick under Kettwitz 42. The train is made up of a locomotive, a tender, the Russian dining car, the mail car, two baggage cars, five passenger cars, a dinner, and the remaining five passenger cars. Until 1950 Mitropa had offices in West Berlin. Since that time Mitropa has confined its activities to East Berlin.

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